



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

AF/ 3634
PATENT
29939/30002

#20/D/CO/WE
pg 3/20/03

Applicant: TRAVERS ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/649,399

Filed: AUGUST 28, 2000

Title: DISH DRAINER AND TRAY
SYSTEM WITH COMPACT
STORAGE OF TRAY

Group Art Unit: 3634

Examiner: NOVOSAD, J. E.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.08**

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GROUP 3600

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FINAL ACTION
MAILED JANUARY 13, 2003**

5 Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the office action mailed on January 13, 2003,
please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application, wherein claims 5-8,
and 16 have been withdrawn from consideration as directed to a non-
elected species. Claims 1-4, 9-15, and 17-20 remain at issue. By this
amendment new independent claim 20 has been added, thereby

15 increasing the total number of claims to twenty (20) and the number of
independent claims to three (3). No new fees are required. Claims 1, 3,
9, 10 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated
by Halvorsen (U.S. Patent No. 623,366). Claims 2, 4, 11, 13-15 and 17-
19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious in light of
20 Halvorsen in view of either Todd (U.S. Patent No. 5,242,054) or Kaufman
et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,947,984).